Health schools in Orissa

1261. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether to strengthen India's public health system, two world class public health schools are proposed to be set up in the country to begin with;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating their locations and source of funding;

(c) whether such a school is also proposed to be set up in Orissa to improve the health-care of this backward region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The Government has decided to support the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) in setting up of world class Institutes of Public Health in India. PHFI is an autonomous Public-Private partnership wherein the Government of India proposes to contribute as one time grant upto Rs. 65 crore to the initial of Rs. 200 crore PHFI corpus, whereas another one-third will come from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the remaining from high net with corporates/individuals, both in India and abroad.

From the initial corpus two schools are proposed to be set up over time. The exact location where the schools are to be set up would be decided by PHFI.

Infant mortality in country

1262. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the States of Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh etc., have the highest infant mortality rate in the country;